

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Attorney Docket No. 825-163

In the specification:

Please add the following paragraph at page 1, between the title and the first line of text as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

The present application is the U.S. national stage application of International Application PCT/EP00/09564, filed September 29, 2000, which international application was published on April 5, 2001 as International Publication WO 01/23790 A1. The International Application claims priority of German Patent Application 199 47 007.3, filed September 30, 1999.

In the claims:

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3. (amended) Axial piston compressor according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that the sliding ring (22) is provided with a groove (26) on its bearing surface that cooperates with the counter-ring (20).

Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

4. (amended) Axial piston compressor according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that the counter-ring (20) is provided with a groove.